TABLE 52.2: *The Fraser Script*

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | [p] | T | [t] | F | [ts] | C | [c] | K | [k] | | |
| ɑ | [pʰ] | ⊥ | [tʰ] | ∃ | [tsʰ] | Ɔ | [cʰ] | ꓘ | [kʰ] | | |
| B | [b] | D | [d] | Z | [dz] | J | [ɟ] | G | [g] | Ꭾ | [ɦ][a] |
| ſ | [f] | S | [s] | | | X | [ʃ] | H | [x] | V | [h] |
| W | [v] | Ꭷ | [z] | | | R | [ʒ] | Ꭸ | [ɣ] | | |
| M | [m] | N | [n] | | | | | Λ | [ŋ] | | |
| | | L | [l] | | | | | | | | |
| W | [u̯] | | | | | Y | [i̯] | | | | |
| | | I | [i] | ∩ | [ü] | ⅂ | [ɯ] | U | [u] | | |
| | | E | [e] | ∃ | [ø] | ɑ | [ə] | O | [ʊ] | | |
| | | ∀ | [æ] | | | A | [ɑ] | | | | |
| . | high tone | , | mid rising | ., | mid tone | .. | mid tense | : | low tone | ; | low tense |
| ' | nasal-ization | – | [ą] | –. | comma | = | period | – | in names | ? | ques-tion |

a. Used only with [ɑ] and low tone.

## The Fraser script

About 1915, J. O. Fraser, a missionary working in China on the Tibeto-Burman language Lisu, created an Indic-style script using the Roman capital letters (upright and inverted) and punctuation marks to indicate tone. Regular Roman letters represent sounds that have close correspondences in English (vowels, semivowels, nasals, stops), though in some cases greater regularity was achieved by deviating from the traditional values. Inverted forms are used for phonetically similar sounds.

## Sample of Hwa (Western) Lisu

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | *Fraser script:* | NY.. | N.–. | NU | MI: | ⊥∀: | SI.. | KW | ΛW | FI | DU | FI | |
| 2. | *Transliteration:* | nyā | ná, | nu | mì | thǽ | sī | kwa | ŋwa | tsi | du | tsi | |
| 1. | ᒥU | KO_ | LO–. | YI | NY | NU | J | GU | YE | T | VU.. | NY, | Gᒣ_ | BV_ |
| 2. | fu | kʊa̰ | lo, | ji | nya | nu | ɟa | gu | ye | ta | hū | nyǎ | gɯa̰ | bhaa̰ |
| 1. | LO= | ⊥O: | ᑯ: | DE.. | KW | L | ƎO | ⊥I | RO | ꓘU., | TY_ | M | S∀; | NY–. |
| 2. | lo. | thò | phà | dē | kwa | la | tsho | thi | ʒo | khù | tyaa̰ | ma | sǽ | nya, |
| 1. | SI.. | ᑯ | J | GU | NU | W | YE | T | VU.. | NY,–. | YI | CƎ. | TƎ, | |
| 2. | sī | pha | ɟa | gu | nu | va | ye | ta | hū | nyâ, | yi | cǿ | tǿ | |
| 1. | TƎ,; | BE | XY,–. | B∀.. | LO= | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. | tǿ | be | shyâ, | bǽ | lo. | | | | | | | | | |

[No analysis of the Hwa Lisu text is available.]

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'

*—Mark 1:2–3 (Hmong: Enwall 1994, 1:189; Lisu: Nida 1972 no. 736).*

Nida, Eugene A., ed. 1972. *The Book of a Thousand Tongues*, rev. ed. London: United Bible Societies.

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